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Claiborne Pell

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Rusty Powell

July 11, 1978

Mr. Bayard Ewing
Tillinghast, Collins & Graham
2000 Hospital Trust Tower
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Bayard:

I understand that the directorship of the RISD Museum will be vacant with the upcoming departure of Dr. Stephen Ostrow.

In this regard, I would like to put forward the name of Earl A. Powell III (Rusty) as an excellent possibility for this position.

Rusty is currently Aide to the Assistant Director of the National Gallery of Art. He has had various major responsibilities at the Gallery including the coordination of international exhibitions such as the recently opened "Splendors of Dresden" show. The tact and skill with which he handled the events surrounding the opening of this superb exhibition were especially impressive to me.

Rusty was born in Providence and after earning a Ph.D. in fine arts from Harvard; he worked for a time at the University of Texas. He loves Rhode Island, continues to maintain a house in Newport, and would, I believe, be interested in becoming a candidate for the position of director of the Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design.

If this thought has merit to you and your search committee, I would hope you might care to get in direct touch with Rusty.

All best wishes.

Ever sincerely,

BCC: Rusty Powell

Claiborne Pell

Enclosure

AC:CF
SENSIG

CURRICULUM VITAE

Earl A. Powell, III
1324 34th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007 202-965-9740

Born 24 October 1943 Married, Nancy Landry Powell. One child,
Cortney O'Neal Powell

Education: B.A. Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., June 1966,
with honors. Double major in Art History and European
History.

M.A. Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., June 1970,
History of Art.

Ph.D. Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., June 1974.

Thesis: English Influences in the Art of Thomas
Cole. (1801-1848). Completed two sets
of general examinations in separate areas
of concentration: French Painting 1848-1918,
and American Painting 1848-1918.

Fellowships: 1970-72 Harvard University Teaching Fellowship
1972-73 Harvard University Traveling Fellowship
dissertation research in Europe.
1973-74 Harvard-Radcliffe Junior Tutorials in
American Art

Military Service: 1966-69, U. S. Navy. Navigation, Personnel
and Legal Officer on two afloat commands.
Released from active duty 1969. Currently
hold rank of Lieutenant Commander in Naval
Reserve.

Positions: 1974-76 Curator of The Michener Collection, The
University of Texas at Austin.

Assistant Professor and Lecturer in Art History
and member of The Graduate Faculty, The
University of Texas at Austin.

1976 - present: Museum Curator and ~~Curatorial~~ ^{Assistant} Aide to
the Assistant Director, National Gallery of
Art. Duties involve curatorial coordination
of international loan exhibitions and related
museum activities, including budget control
and management of the Gallery's professional
staff.

Publications: American Art at Harvard, 1973. A catalogue of a major retrospective of the Harvard University holdings in American art, organized and written as a graduate student project with other students.

Selections from the James Michener Collection, 1975.
Translated into Portugese.

Abstract Expressionists and Imagists: A Retrospective View 1976. Exhibition catalogue, the University of Texas at Austin.

Milton Avery, 1976. Exhibition catalogue, the University of Texas at Austin.

"Manierre Dawson's 'Woman in Brown,'" Arts Magazine (September, 1976), 76-77.

"Morton Schamberg: The Machine as Icon," Arts Magazine (May, 1977), 122-123.

"Thomas Cole's Dream of Arcadia," Arts Magazine (November, 1977), 113-115.

~~In~~

~~Publication:~~ Catalogue Raisonne of the Michener Collection,
~~December 1977.~~ *Published 1978*

Three essays on Thomas Cole ^{*published*} ~~accepted for publication~~
in Arts Magazine, February, March, April, 1978.